

Hot Issues

Outreach to States and Tribes in advance of Gold King Mine (GKM) Spring Run-off Sampling

Key Message: This week Regions 8, 6 and 9 notified interested states and tribes of EPA's plans for April 2017 sampling of water and sediment in the Animas and San Juan Rivers to further assess impacts of spring run-off on the GKM release.

- This work will assess ORD's finding that the Gold King plume deposits have been carried from the rivers to the final receiving waters.
- States and tribes may accompany the sampling crews.
- This work is being coordinated with ORD and OW.

Last Week Highlights

Regional Tribal Operations Committee Meeting

Key Message: On March 21 -23, Region 8 hosted representatives from 18 of the Region's 27 tribes at a semi-annual meeting of the Regional Tribal Operations Committee. Topics raised by tribes included:

- Potential reduction in funding for EPA's tribal grants.
- Concerns with EPA's proposed draft Underground Injection Control permits and associated aquifer exemption for the Dewey Burdock proposed in-situ uranium recovery project in Edgemont, SD.
- Treaty rights.

SDWA Emergency Administrative Order issued to Exxon Mobil

Key Message: On March 17, 2017, EPA issued a SDWA 1431 Emergency Administrative Order in response to a potential imminent and substantial endangerment at Exxon's Shute Creek Gas Plant Public Water System in Lincoln County, Wyoming.

- The System, which uses the Green River as its source, had notified EPA that the system could treat raw water from the Green River adequately because the river is experiencing high turbidity due to snow melt runoff.
- The Order requires the System to post public notices and distribute a boil water advisory, as well as to perform corrective actions.
- Exxon Mobil has notified all 250 employees to not drink the water, and is providing bottled water.
- As of March 23, the System continues to have problems due to river turbidity.